

Baltimore for many years. His brother, Clarence Mitchell, Jr., the late civil rights activist, was the chief lobbyist for the NAACP for 30 years and was instrumental in the passage of several civil rights bills. Two of his nephews, Clarence M. Mitchell III and Michael B. Mitchell, Sr., were elected as Baltimore city councilmen and Maryland State senators. His nephew, Keiffer Mitchell, is currently serving as a Baltimore city councilman and plans to campaign for the upcoming mayoral election in Baltimore city. His legacy of inspiring others to serve the public still lives on.

In remembering the life of Parren Mitchell, I am grateful to have known him personally and am confident that America is a better place because he lived.

#### HONORING THE COMMITMENT OF HERB HICKS

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 6, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Herb Hicks as he celebrates his 40th year of perfect attendance as a Rotarian. A dedicated man, Hicks has been present for over 2,000 weekly Rotary meetings.

Hicks helped found the Cantonment Rotary Club in 1948. He later became the club's fifth president. Furthermore, Hicks has received the honor of being named a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary, a privilege reserved for those who have donated \$1,000 to the club. At 93 years of age, Hicks is the last charter member of the civic organization; yet he continues to play an important role at his local Cantonment Rotary Club.

Paul Frederick, current president of the Cantonment Rotary, explained, "Herb is one of the exemplars in this club. He leads by example and attendance to Rotary functions is one thing this club stresses. No one in this area has a longer perfect attendance record." He also pointed out that Hicks hosts an annual picnic for Rotary members and family.

Hicks is very clear on his priorities, saying, "I think Rotary is important. I put church first and Rotary second in my life." Hicks admits to cutting many business meetings short in order to be present for his 12:15 p.m. Wednesday meetings. However, for circumstances that were unavoidable, Hicks had a backup plan. Rotary International allows missed meetings to be made up by attending other local Rotary club meetings. Hicks divulged, "I have attended make-up meetings everywhere in the United States."

In total, Hicks has been a member of Rotary for 59 years. The dedication exemplified can only be explained by Hicks as he said, "I like the fellowship and I like what Rotary does, I like its world-wide outreach and I believe in its principles and high ethical standards." To put it simply, Hicks asks, "If you are not going to attend, why belong?"

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations to Hicks as he has not only set a precedent for the Rotary, but also has challenged the commitment of those before me today. I take pride in Hick's determination, and I wish him all the best.

#### HONORING LEE HAYES OF THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

#### HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 6, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize a great American patriot and World War II hero, Lee Hayes, of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen.

In 1941, the formation of the all African-American squadron based in Alabama, the Tuskegee Airmen, was largely regarded as an "experiment" by the U.S. military to test the combat readiness of an all-black fighting squadron. These brave servicemen demonstrated exceptional selflessness and patriotism as they fought two wars for our country—one against the enemy overseas and the other against segregation and discrimination at home.

Among the honors bestowed upon the Tuskegee Airmen include 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 744 Air Medals, 14 Bronze Stars, and 8 Purple Hearts. Most recently, they were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor that the legislative branch can bestow.

I am proud to call one of the Tuskegee Airmen a friend and neighbor. His name is Lee Hayes. He was raised on Long Island and is a current resident of Amagansett, New York. At 88 years young, Mr. Hayes was born in Mannboro, Virginia. In the 1930s, Lee's family moved to eastern Long Island, where he attended East Hampton High School.

Lee Hayes developed an interest in flying planes at a young age, while keenly aware of the sad racial realities of the time. In his own words: "I never thought much about whether or not blacks fly airplanes . . . It didn't occur to me that we didn't, and the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to do it."

After the Army drafted him and after scoring a 94 on the preliminary examination, Mr. Hayes impressed his instructors by quickly learning to fly the B-25 bomber. Mr. Hayes never entered combat, as the war ended shortly before he finished his pilot training. He was honorably discharged and returned to East Hampton.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to represent Lee Hayes in the U.S. House of Representatives. On behalf of a grateful nation, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Lee Hayes and the Tuskegee Airmen for their extraordinary bravery and contributions to our Nation.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE BOHAN

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 6, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Catherine Bohan, for her outstanding efforts in educating children, and for her lifelong commitment to family, colleagues, and friends.

Cathy has educated and enlightened our children and prepared them for life's journey for approximately 40 years, including 13 years

at Saint Richard School where she currently teaches third grade. She has proven herself a wonderful teacher, colleague and friend. Not only does she teach at Saint Richard School, but she also makes a tremendous contribution as member of the Liturgy Committee, a Eucharistic Minister, a Praxis Pathwise Mentor, and a member of the Retreat Committee.

Likewise, her services to Saint Clarence Church as RCIA Leader, Eucharistic Minister, PSR Teacher and Pre-Cana organizer while at the same time raising three beautiful children, is truly admirable. She has been married to her beloved husband, Patrick, for 30 years.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Catherine Bohan for her long and successful career as an educator and for her dedication to and care for the future generations of Northeast Ohio.

#### CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA TO STOP GENOCIDE AND VIOLENCE IN DARFUR, SUDAN

SPEECH OF

#### HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2007*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to support H. Res. 422, a resolution calling on the government of the People's Republic of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur, Sudan. This resolution highlights China's inaction regarding the genocide in Darfur and I am particularly proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution.

Since the conflict began 4 years ago, 400,000 persons have been murdered and 2.5 million displaced. Thousands are still dying from the ravages of war each month in an area roughly the size of Texas. This campaign of terror in the region has been labeled "genocide" by our Government.

China is Sudan's largest trading partner and the main foreign investor in Sudan's oil industry. China National Petroleum Corporation has a 40 percent share in the international consortium extracting oil in Sudan, and it is building refineries and pipelines, enabling Sudan to benefit from oil-export-revenue since 1999. Although most Western oil companies have withdrawn from Sudan under pressure from human rights organizations, Chinese companies have turned a blind eye to the brutal way in which Sudan forced 2.5 million of its citizens from oil-rich lands without compensation. Nor have these companies shown concern that Sudan uses oil revenue to purchase arms for its wars against its population.

Mr. Speaker, countless people have spoken out against the tragedy taking place in Darfur, but now it is time for elected leaders to demand that action be taken to end this genocide in Darfur. If we fail to take action it is likely that future generations will view our inaction as complicity. I am hoping that our government will do everything in its power to stop this genocide. Additionally, it is my strong desire that the international community, including China, do everything in its power to end this genocide as well.

H. Res. 422 calls on the People's Republic of China to acknowledge and condemn the violence taking place in Darfur, cease all military